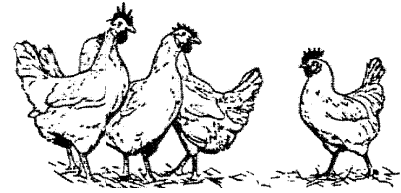


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CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

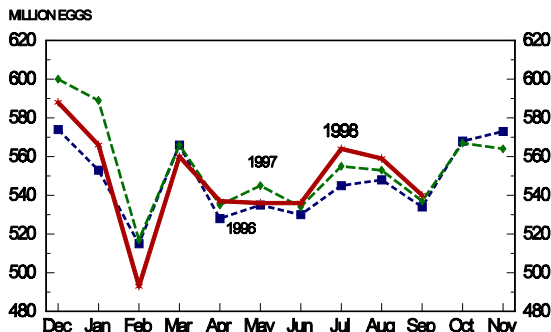
California's egg production during September totaled 540 million, 19.0 million less than last month, and 3.00 million more than last September. Average number of layers during the month totaled 25.3 million, fractionally below September 1997. Eggs per 100 layers during the month were 2,136, compared to 2,253 last month and 2,105 in September 1997.

U.S. SEPTEMBER EGG PRODUCTION UP 2 PERCENT

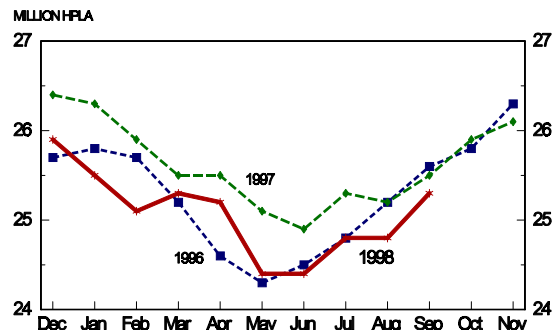
U.S. egg production totaled 6.46 billion during September 1998, up 2 percent from the 6.35 billion produced in 1997. Production included 5.46 billion table eggs and 998 million hatching eggs, of which 940 million were broiler-type and 58.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 1998 averaged 310 million, up 2 percent from the total average number of layers during September 1997. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,081 eggs, down 1 percent from 2,096 eggs in September 1997.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 1998 totaled 312 million, up 2 percent from a year ago. The 312 million layers consisted of 255 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 53.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.51 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 1998 averaged 69.3 eggs per 100 layers, down 1 percent from the 69.8 a year ago.

EGG PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1995-1998



AVERAGE NUMBER OF LAYERS, CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER, 1995-1998



LAYER NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION DURING SEPTEMBER, FORCED MOLTING AS OF OCTOBER 1

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	-- Thousands --		-- Number --		-- Millions --		---- Percent ----			
Alabama	10,745	10,711	1,908	1,830	205	196	4.0	1.5	14.5	12.5
Arkansas	14,396	14,493	1,827	1,739	263	252	2.5	3.0	13.0	7.5
California	25,516	25,283	2,105	2,136	537	540	8.5	9.5	35.5	30.5
Georgia	20,151	20,974	1,980	1,940	399	407	9.5	5.0	19.5	18.5
Indiana	21,285	22,040	2,218	2,219	472	489	4.5	4.0	21.5	32.5
Iowa	21,424	23,265	2,124	2,102	455	489	4.0	6.5	25.0	33.0
North Carolina	11,716	11,050	1,861	1,837	218	203	1.5	2.5	14.0	9.0
Ohio	26,056	27,865	2,234	2,168	582	604	3.0	5.0	14.0	12.5
Pennsylvania	21,378	21,639	2,189	2,218	468	480	5.0	3.0	14.0	18.0
Texas	17,080	16,791	2,026	2,067	346	347	5.0	6.0	26.0	24.0
UNITED STATES	302,923	310,274	2,096	2,081	6,350	6,458	4.7	4.9	22.6	21.9

U.S. BROILER HATCH UP 1 PERCENT

The September 1998 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 693 million, was up 1 percent from September of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 582 million on October 1, 1998, up 3 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.31 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 1998. This was up 12 percent from September 1997.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, SEPTEMBER

State	1997	1998	<u>1998</u> <u>1997</u>
	- Thousands -		Percent
Alabama	90,327	88,188	98
Arkansas	103,391	99,684	96
Delaware	15,207	14,830	98
Florida	9,044	8,577	95
Georgia	104,403	105,975	102
Maryland	29,628	30,826	104
Mississippi	59,411	62,095	105
North Carolina	57,721	58,009	100
Pennsylvania	12,682	12,532	99
South Carolina	14,909	14,811	99
Texas	42,959	44,570	104
Virginia	23,061	22,691	98
California, West Virginia & Tennessee	35,194	37,892	108
Other States ^{1/}	86,267	92,179	107
UNITED STATES	684,204	692,859	101

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED UP 4 PERCENT

Egg-type chicks hatched during September totaled 38.6 million, up 4 percent from September 1997. Eggs in incubators totaled 33.1 million on October 1, 1998, up 6 percent from a year ago.

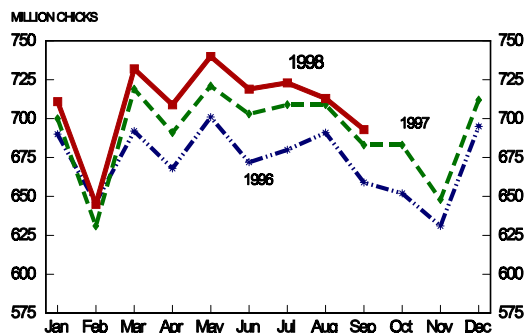
Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 324 thousand during September 1998. This was down 19 percent from the relatively large figure of 402 thousand for September 1997.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, SEPTEMBER

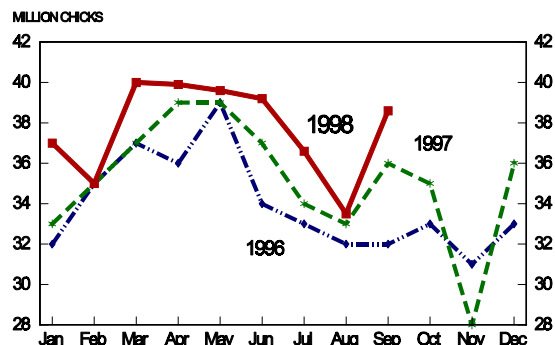
State	1997	1998	<u>1998</u> <u>1997</u>
	- Thousands -		Percent
Arkansas	696	837	120
Florida	1,192	1,158	97
Georgia	2,012	1,884	94
Indiana	7,437	7,436	100
Iowa	3,934	4,316	110
Kansas	219	168	77
Minnesota	2,041	2,016	99
Missouri	378	315	83
Pennsylvania	5,548	6,385	115
Other States ^{1/}	13,724	14,096	103
UNITED STATES	37,181	38,611	104

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

BROILER CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996-1998



EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, UNITED STATES JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1996-1998



EGGS IN INCUBATORS, OCTOBER 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1997	1998	<u>1998</u> <u>1997</u>	1997	1998	<u>1998</u> <u>1997</u>
	- Thousands -		Percent	- Thousands -		Percent
North Atlantic	12,020	11,505	96	4,882	7,187	147
East North Central	6,926	8,273	119	8,470	7,277	86
West North Central	20,647	21,092	102	5,365	6,334	118
South Atlantic	214,900	221,973	103	4,405	4,542	103
South Central	292,349	297,430	102	3,898	3,158	81
West	18,757	21,349	114	4,253	4,641	109
UNITED STATES	565,599	581,622	103	31,273	33,139	106

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

The average September prices received by California producers, when compared to August average prices, increased one cent per pound for turkeys and stayed the same for broilers. Prices for market eggs dropped three cents per dozen.

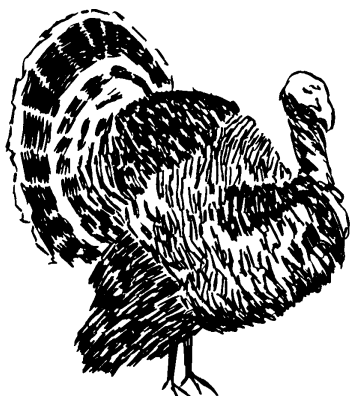
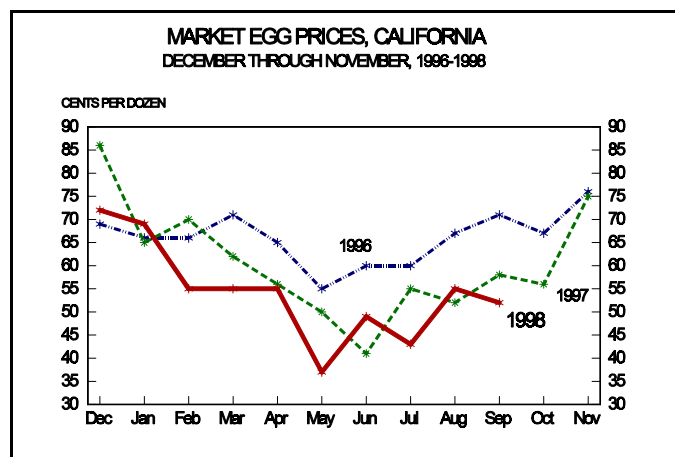
Nationally, September average prices received by producers, when compared to August average prices, increased 1.4 cents per pound for turkeys, but dropped one cent per pound for broilers. Prices dropped 1.8 cents per dozen for market eggs.

**POULTRY AND EGG AVERAGE PRICES
RECEIVED BY PRODUCERS, COMPARISONS 1/**

Commodity	Unit	Sept. 1997	Aug. 15, 1998	Sept. 15, 1998
--- Cents ---				
CALIFORNIA				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	40.0	46.0	46.0
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	58.0	55.0	52.0
Turkeys	Lb.	42.0	40.0	41.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	38.5	46.9	45.9
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	57.6	51.4	49.6
Turkeys	Lb.	41.1	38.8	40.2

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by producers. They are averages for all grades, classes and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Average for market (table) eggs including eggs sold retail by producers.



U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

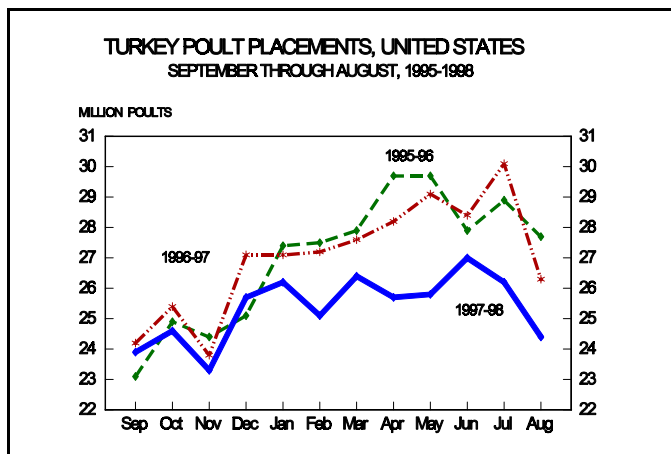
Turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 1998 in the United States totaled 26.7 million, down 16 percent from October 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were down 1 percent from the September 1 total of 27.0 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, up 9 percent; W N Central, down 23 percent; N & S Atlantic, down 22 percent; S Central, down 11 percent; West, down 15 percent.

The 21.1 million poult placed during September 1998 in the United States were down 12 percent from the placements during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 14 percent from the August 1998 total of 24.5 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: E N Central, up 3 percent; W N Central, down 2 percent; N & S Atlantic, down 20 percent; S Central, down 12 percent; West, down 34 percent.

ALL TURKEYS

Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators October 1		1998 1997	Poult Placed during Sept. 1/		1998 1997
	1997	1998		1997	1998	
	Thousands	Pct.		Thousands	Pct.	
E N Central	4,587	5,002	109	3,250	3,358	103
W N Central	9,306	7,142	77	7,077	6,950	98
N&S Atlantic	11,715	9,118	78	8,646	6,901	80
S Central	3,728	3,303	89	2,722	2,405	88
West	2,542	2,159	85	2,212	1,461	66
U.S.	31,878	26,724	84	23,907	21,075	88

1/ Excludes exported poult.



TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES 1/ 2/

Month	Total All Breeds		98-99 97-98	Cumulative Total		98-99 97-98
	1997-98	1998-99		1997-98	1998-99	
	Thousands	Percent		Thousands	Percent	
Sept.	23,907	21,075	88	23,907	21,075	88
Oct.	24,587			48,494		
Nov.	23,281			71,775		
Dec.	25,711			97,486		
Jan.	26,240			123,726		
Feb.	25,093			148,819		
Mar.	26,362			175,181		
Apr.	25,747			200,928		
May	25,677			226,605		
June	26,974			253,579		
July	26,247			279,826		
Aug.	24,450			304,269		

1/ Data for 1997-98 includes revisions published in "Hatchery Production 1997 Summary".

2/ Excludes exported poult.

PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	September 1997	August 1998 <u>1/</u>	September 1998	Sept. 1998 Sept. 1997	Sept. 1998 Aug. 1998
PACIFIC COAST			--- Thousands ---		-- Percent --	
Turkeys	Lbs.	130,731	123,440	127,752	98	103
Chickens	Lbs.	43,379	29,266	26,799	62	92
Ducks	Lbs.	743	1,095	85	11	8
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	174,853	153,801	154,636	88	101
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	770,706	708,831	696,984	90	98
Chickens	Lbs.	556,309	550,002	590,517	106	107
Ducks	Lbs.	2,844	5,597	4,459	157	80
Total Frozen Poultry Supplies	Lbs.	1,329,859	1,264,430	1,291,960	97	102
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	10,835	8,993	8,225	76	91

1/ Revised.